

DC COMICS

THE NEW 52!

5

SUPERMAN

ACTION COMICS

IT BEGINS...



GRANT
MORRISON
ANDY
KUBERT
JESSE
DELPDANG

ANDY KUBERT
JESSE Delperdang
BK

...AGAIN!

dc.comics.com

RATED T TEEN

MAR 2012

DC COMICS

THE NEW 52!

5

SUPERMAN

ACTION COMICS



RAGS MY PALES

dccomics.com

GRANT MORRISON
ANDY KUBERT
JESSE DELPERDANG

RATED T TEEN

MAR 2012

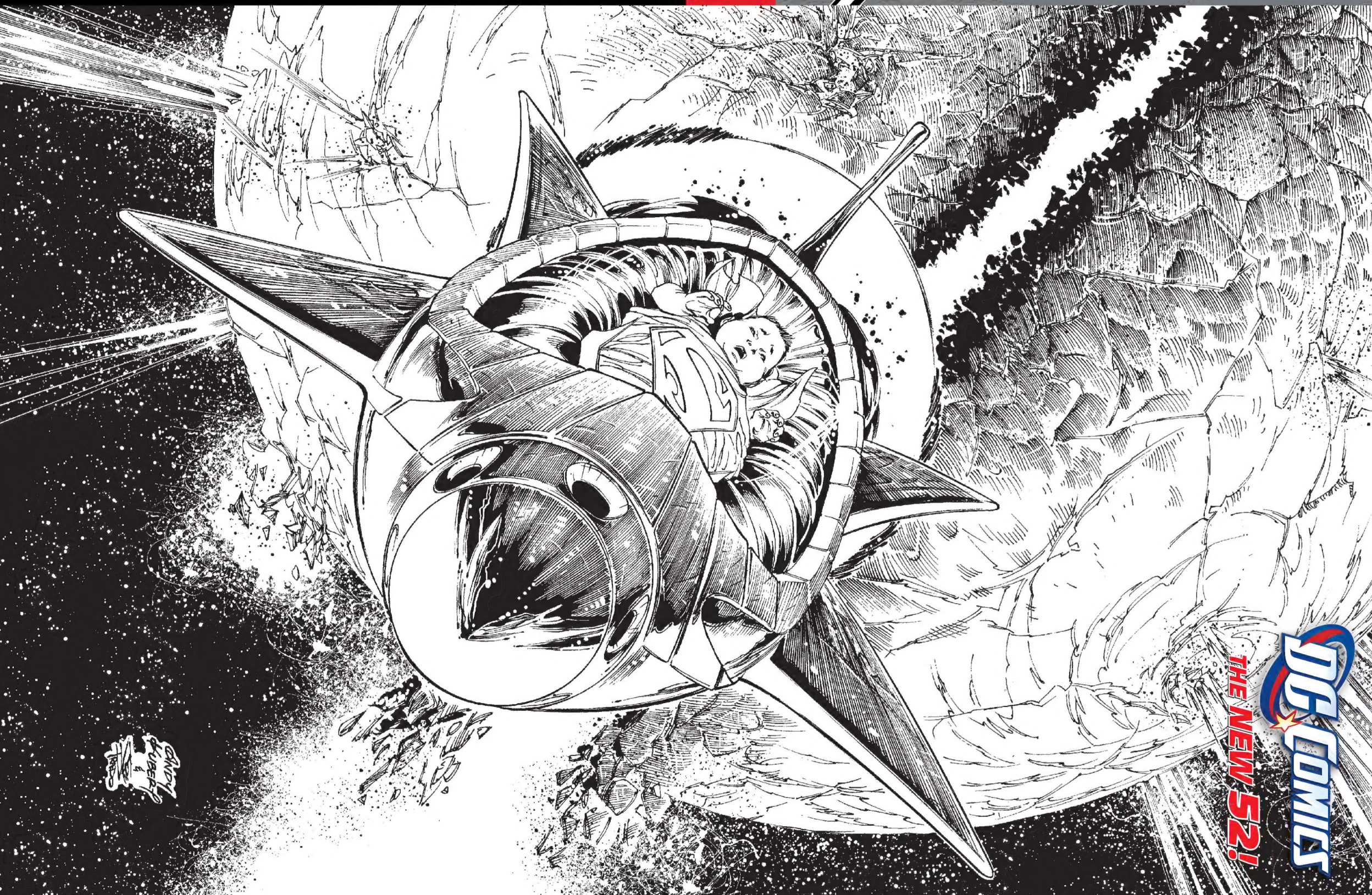
RATED **T** TEEN

MAR 2012

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No. 5

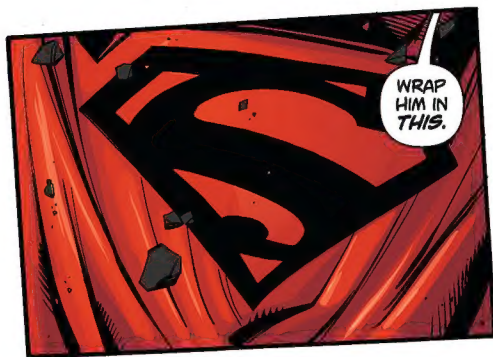
SUPERMAN[®] **ACTION** COMICS[®]



GARY
KUBERT
P

THE NEW 52!

DC
COMICS



WRAP HIM IN THIS.



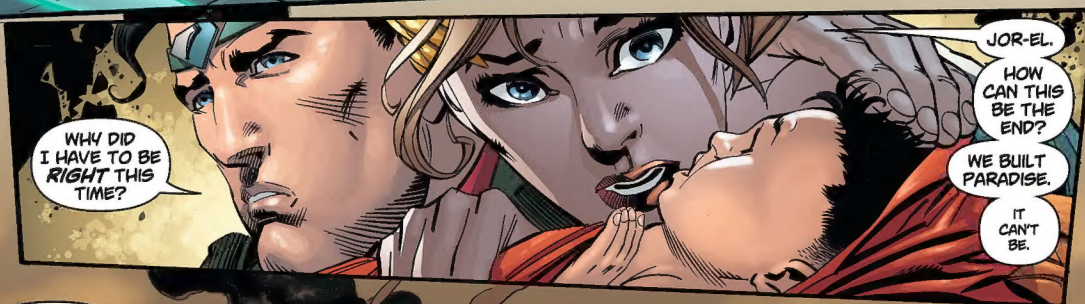
MY FATHER'S CLOAK.



I TRIED TO WARN THEM, BUT THEY WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME!

THEY WOULDN'T EVEN CONSIDER A DEMONSTRATION OF THE ESCAPE ARK PROTOTYPE, AND NOW...

OH, LARA...



WHY DID I HAVE TO BE RIGHT THIS TIME?

JOR-EL.

HOW CAN THIS BE THE END?

WE BUILT PARADISE.

IT CAN'T BE.



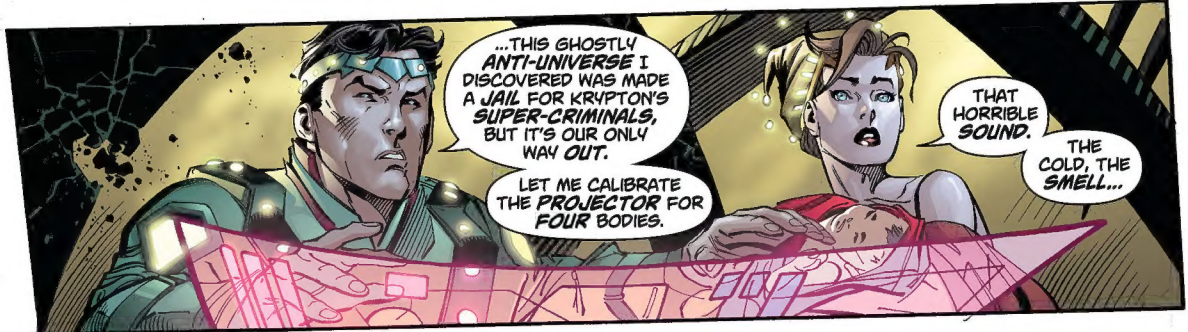
KRYPTON IS TEARING ITSELF APART, LARA!

BUT YOU, ME, THE BABY...

THERE'S STILL A WAY.



WE CAN ESCAPE INTO THE PHANTOM ZONE.

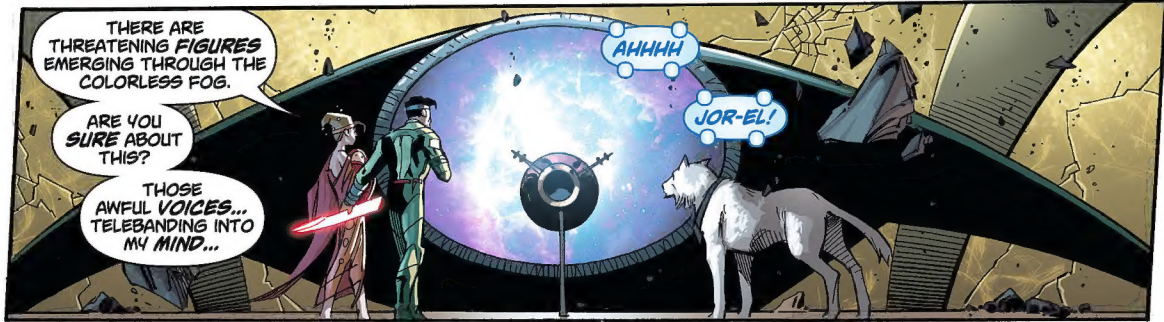


...THIS GHOSTLY ANTI-UNIVERSE I DISCOVERED WAS MADE A JAIL FOR KRYPTON'S SUPER-CRIMINALS, BUT IT'S OUR ONLY WAY OUT.

LET ME CALIBRATE THE PROJECTOR FOR FOUR BODIES.

THAT HORRIBLE SOUND.

THE COLD, THE SMELL...



THERE ARE THREATENING FIGURES EMERGING THROUGH THE COLORLESS FOG.

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

THOSE AWFUL VOICES... TELEBRANDING INTO MY MIND...

AHHHH

JOR-EL!



JOR-EL, THE ARCHITECT OF OUR DESPAIR.

WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.

YOU AND YOUR PRETTY YOUNG WIFE, YOUR INFANT SON.



DO YOU HOPE TO JOIN US HERE IN BODILESS LIMBO WHERE YOU LEFT US TO ROT?

HE'S REACHING THROUGH THE ZONE PORTAL!

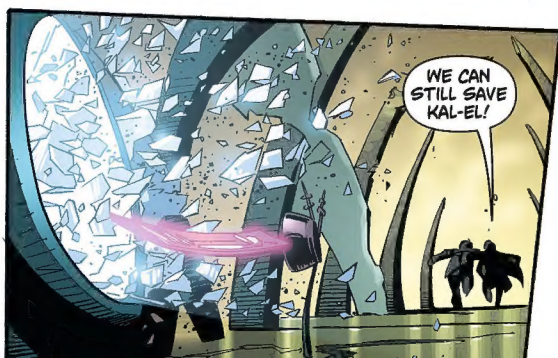
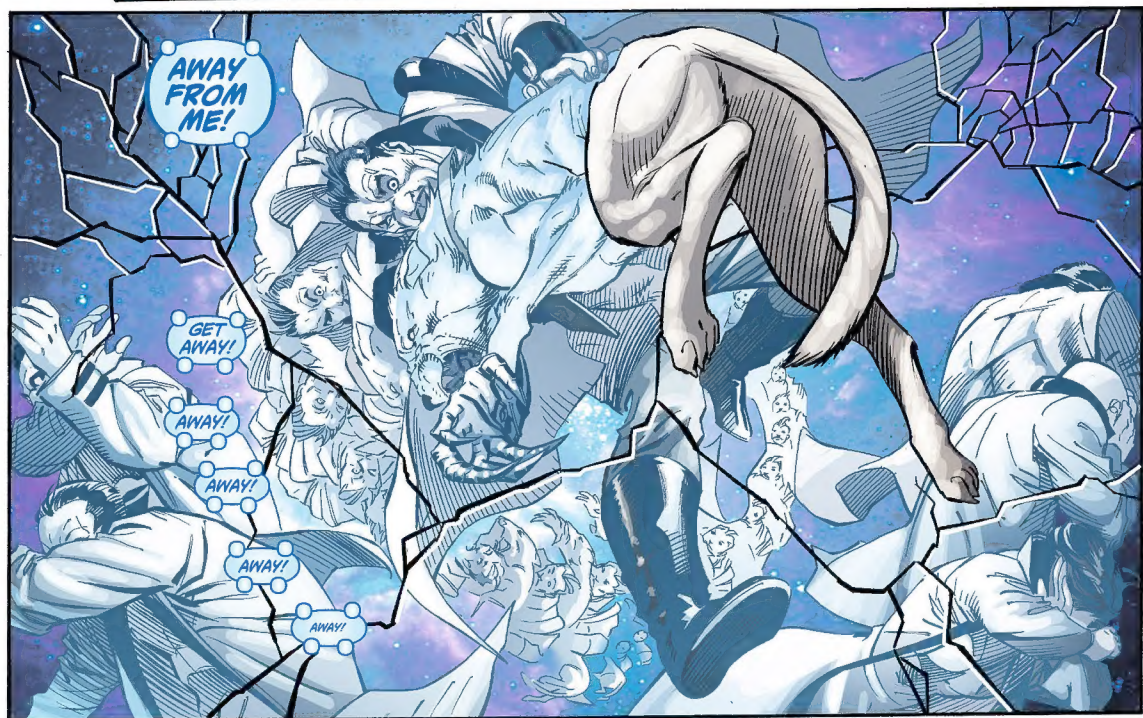
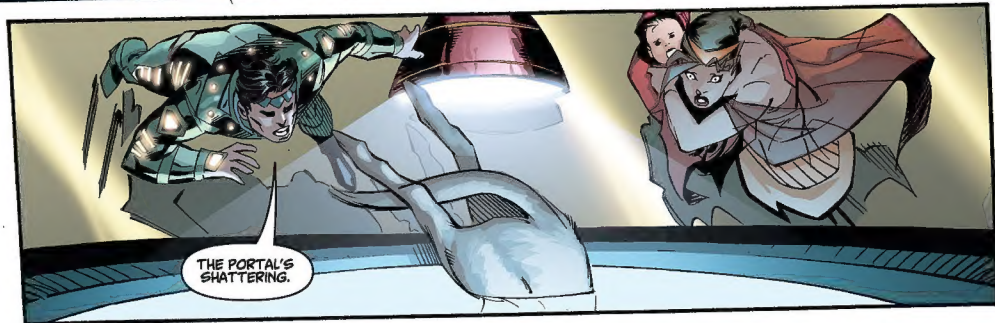
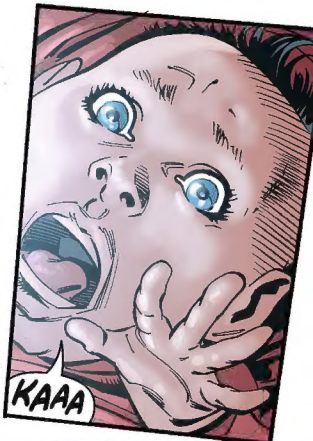
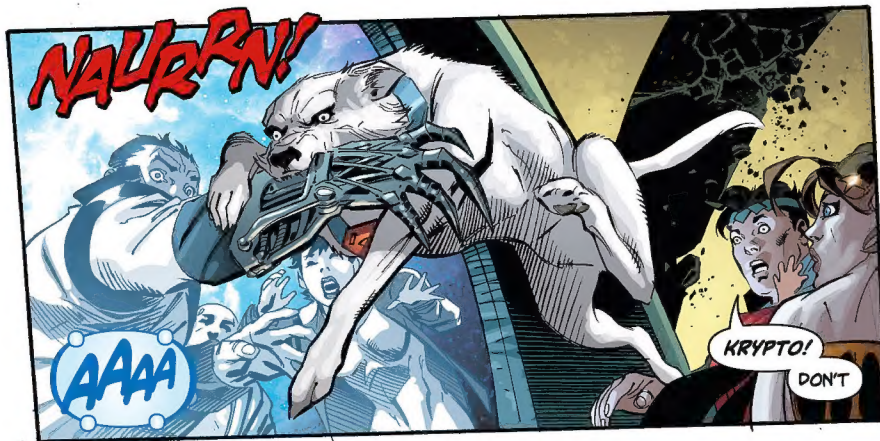
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

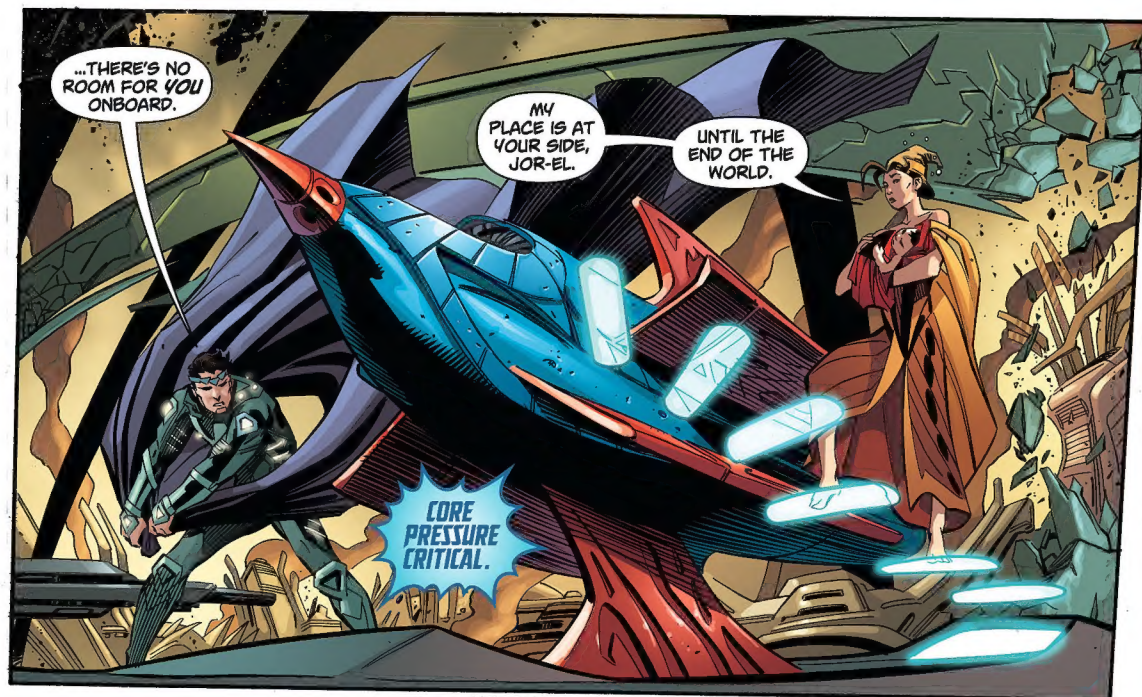


COME.

TAKE MY HAND, JOR-EL.

WE WILL RIP HER MIND TO SHREDS WHILE YOU WATCH, A PHANTOM, UNABLE TO STOP US FROM CORRUPTING YOUR SON, AND...





AND THIS IS
THE HISTORY OF
THE MISSION.



AND HOW THE
MISSION WAS
ACCOMPLISHED.

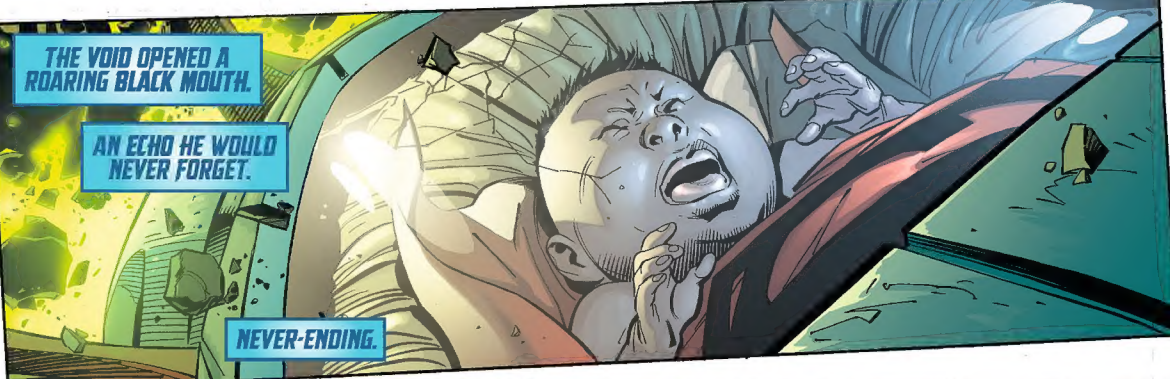
ROCKET SONG

GRANT MORRISON WRITER ANDY KUBERT PENCILLER

JESSE DELPERDANG INKER BRAD ANDERSON COLORIST PATRICK BROSSAU LETTERER

ANDY KUBERT, JOE PRADO & BRAD ANDERSON COVER RAGS MORALES & BRAD ANDERSON VARIANT COVER

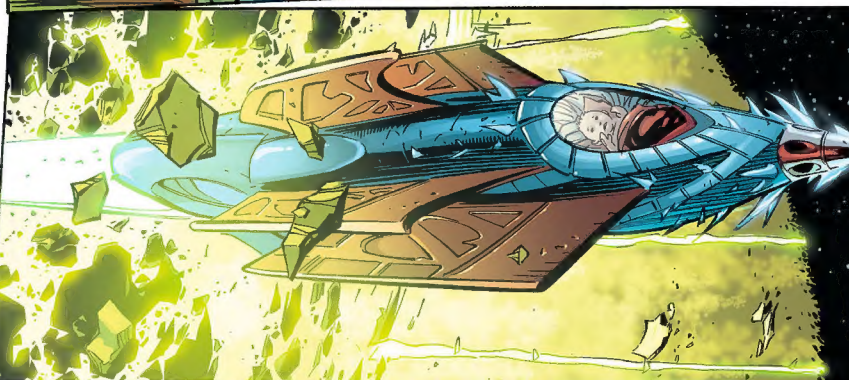
WIL MOSS ASSOCIATE EDITOR MATT IDELSON EDITOR SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER



THE VOID OPENED A
ROARING BLACK MOUTH.

AN ECHO HE WOULD
NEVER FORGET.

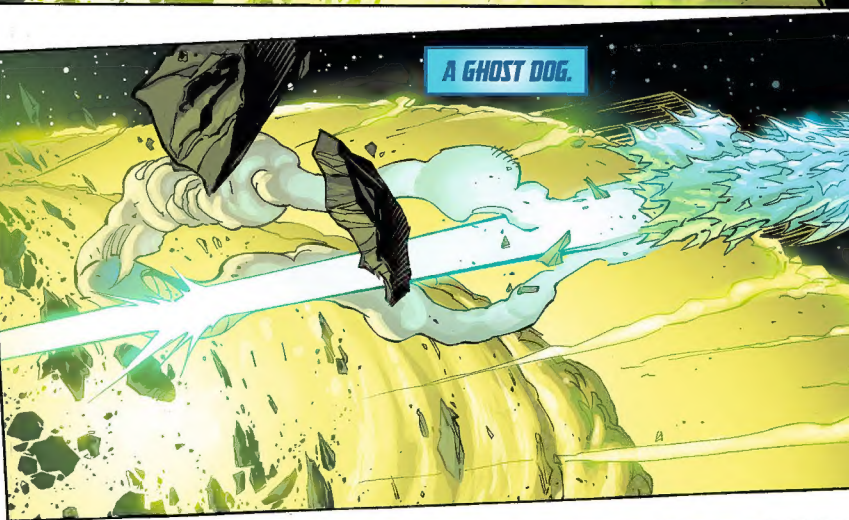
NEVER-ENDING.



AND SEARCHING: OPTIMUM
STELLAR SPECTRA.

BLAST DAMAGE:
QUIN-DRIVE FAILING.

AND SEARCHING.



A GHOST DOG.

THE FADING CURSES OF
TRANSPARENT MEN AND
DISEMBODED WOMEN.

DEBRIS.

SUPERLUMINAL
THRUST: ENGAGE.

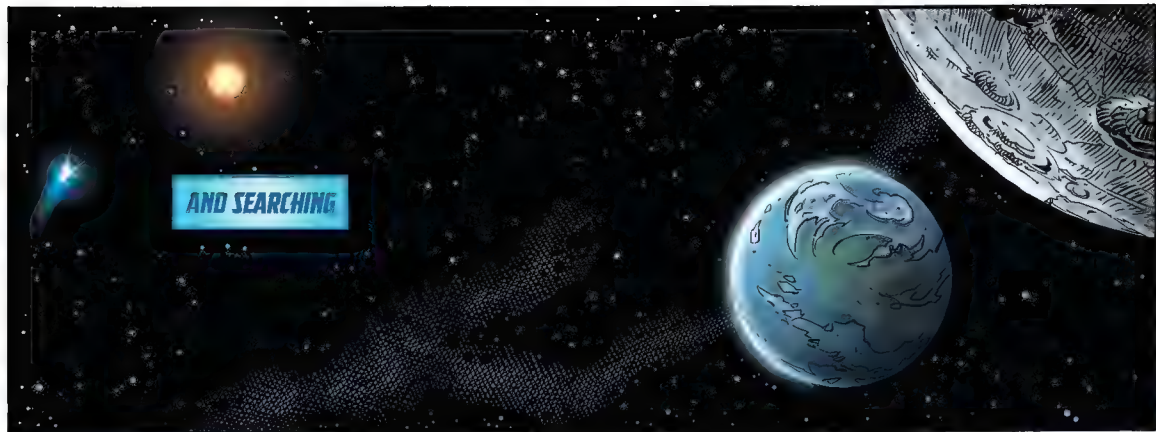


THEN BLINDING GULFS
OF SUPERSPACE.

OF UN-TIME.

EXQUISITE CALCULATION.

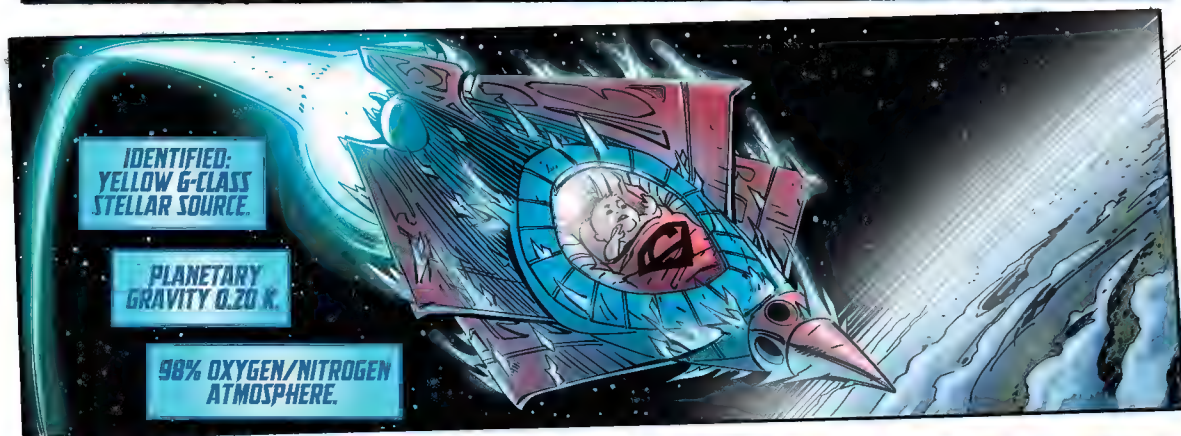
THE LAST SON OF
KRYPTON DREAMS.



AND SEARCHING



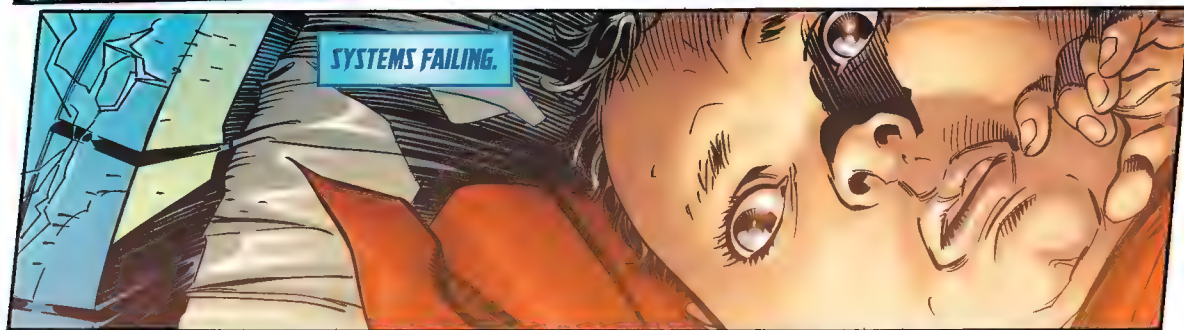
AND NOW!



IDENTIFIED:
YELLOW G-CLASS
STELLAR SOURCE.

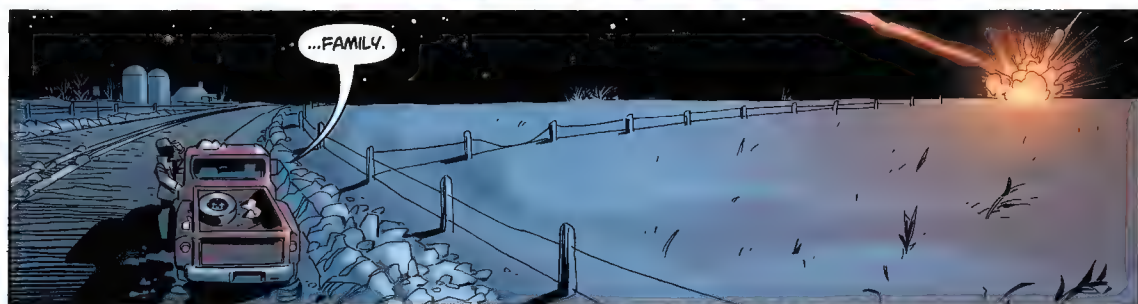
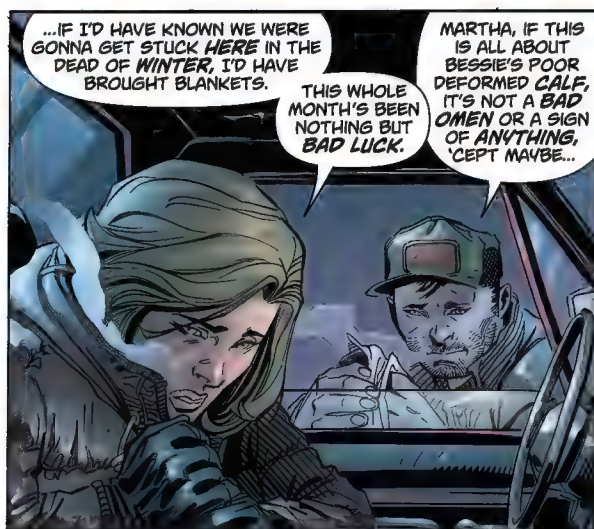
PLANETARY
GRAVITY 0.20 K.

98% OXYGEN/NITROGEN
ATMOSPHERE.



SYSTEMS FAILING.







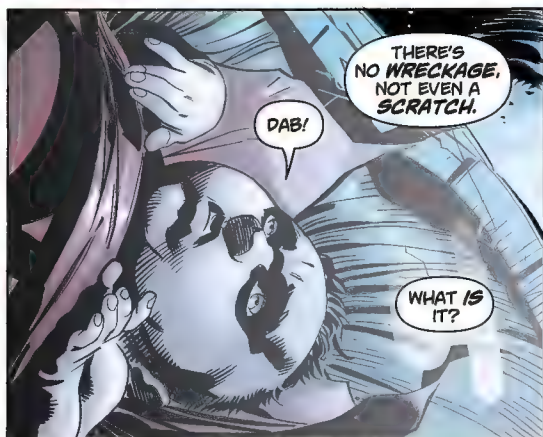
...IT WAS LIKE CRYING.

I KNOW HOW THAT SOUNDS, BUT I KNOW WHAT I HEARD...

LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF PLANE OR SPACE EXPERIMENT.

WHAT THE HELL?

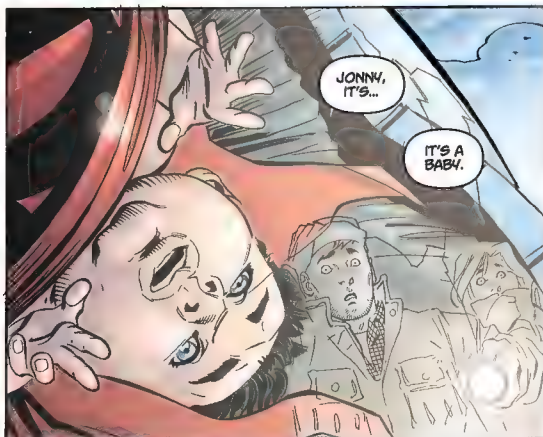
STAY BACK.



THERE'S NO WRECKAGE, NOT EVEN A SCRATCH.

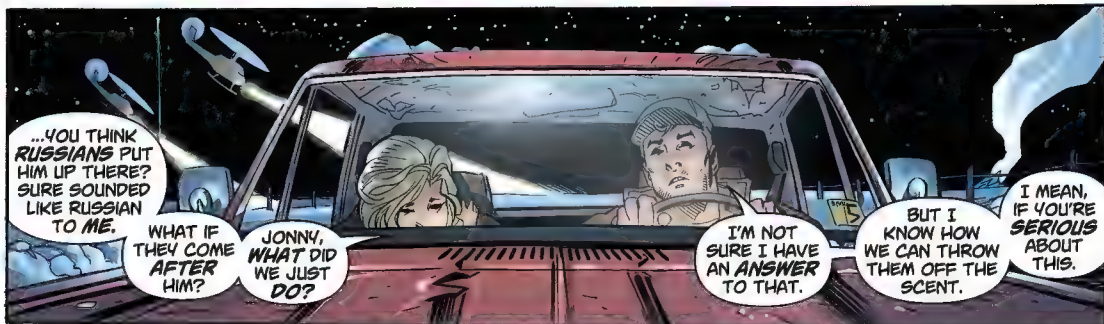
DAB!

WHAT IS IT?



JONNNY, IT'S...

IT'S A BABY.



...YOU THINK RUSSIANS PUT HIM UP THERE? SURE SOUNDED LIKE RUSSIAN TO ME.

WHAT IF THEY COME AFTER HIM?

JONNNY, WHAT DID WE JUST DO?

I'M NOT SURE I HAVE AN ANSWER TO THAT.

BUT I KNOW HOW WE CAN THROW THEM OFF THE SCENT.

I MEAN, IF YOU'RE SERIOUS ABOUT THIS.

APES WITH ATOM BOMBS

THEIR IMBECILIC MACHINES LACK VOICES, OPINIONS OR SELF-DIRECTION.

LEVEL 10 TOOLS IN THE HANDS OF TRIBAL WARRING STATES: UNTHINKABLE.

APES WITH ATOM BOMBS

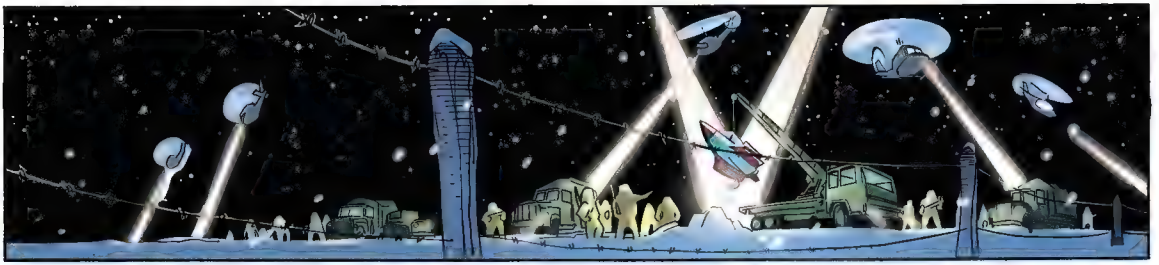
THEIR IMBECILIC MACHINES LACK VOICES, OPINIONS OR SELF-DIRECTION.

LEVEL 10 TOOLS IN THE HANDS OF TRIBAL WARRING STATES: UNTHINKABLE.

APES WITH ATOM BOMBS

THEIR IMBECILIC MACHINES LACK VOICES, OPINIONS OR SELF-DIRECTION.

LEVEL 10 TOOLS IN THE HANDS OF TRIBAL WARRING STATES: UNTHINKABLE.



40!
BACK OFF,
BUDDY!



YOU HEAR
WHAT I JUST
SAID?

THERE'S
BEEN AN
ACCIDENT
UP AHEAD...A
CHEMICAL
SPILL.

YOU
HAVE TO TURN
RIGHT AROUND
AND TAKE THE
CEDAR BLUFF
ROAD.

THAT AIN'T
WHY I'M HERE,
SOLDIER.

ME AND THE MISSUS
FOUND SOMETHING OVER
YONDER WHEN WE CAME
BY BEFORE.

TAKE A
LOOK IN
BACK.



I'M GUESSING
THERE MUST BE
SOME KIND OF
REWARD,
RIGHT?

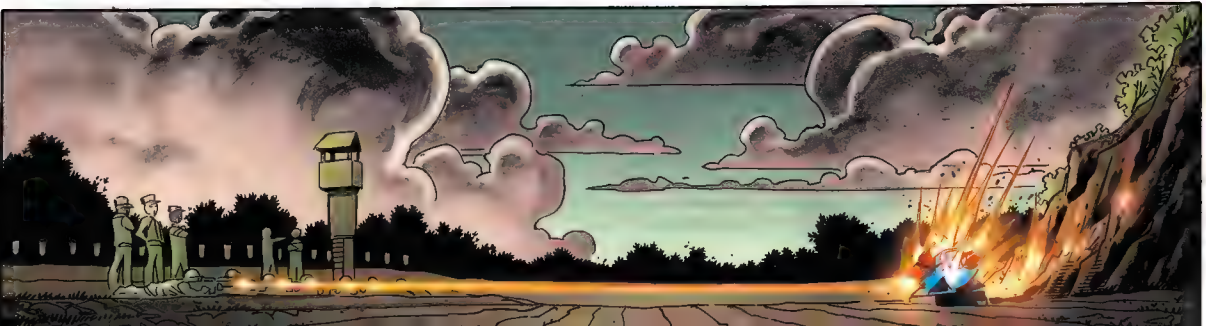
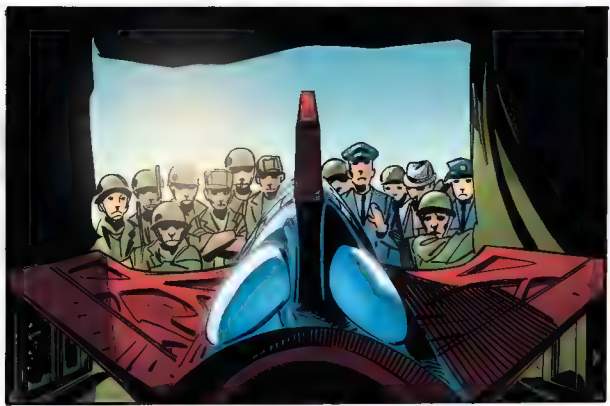
YOU CAN
HAVE MY NAME,
TELEPHONE,
WHATEVER YOU
NEED.

BUT THIS
AIN'T ABOUT
CHEMICALS,
AND WE ALL
KNOW IT.

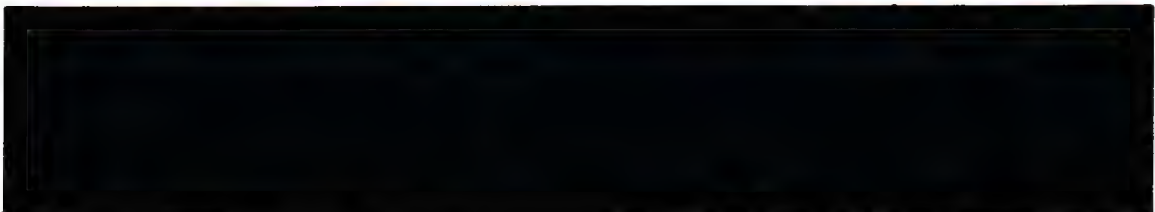
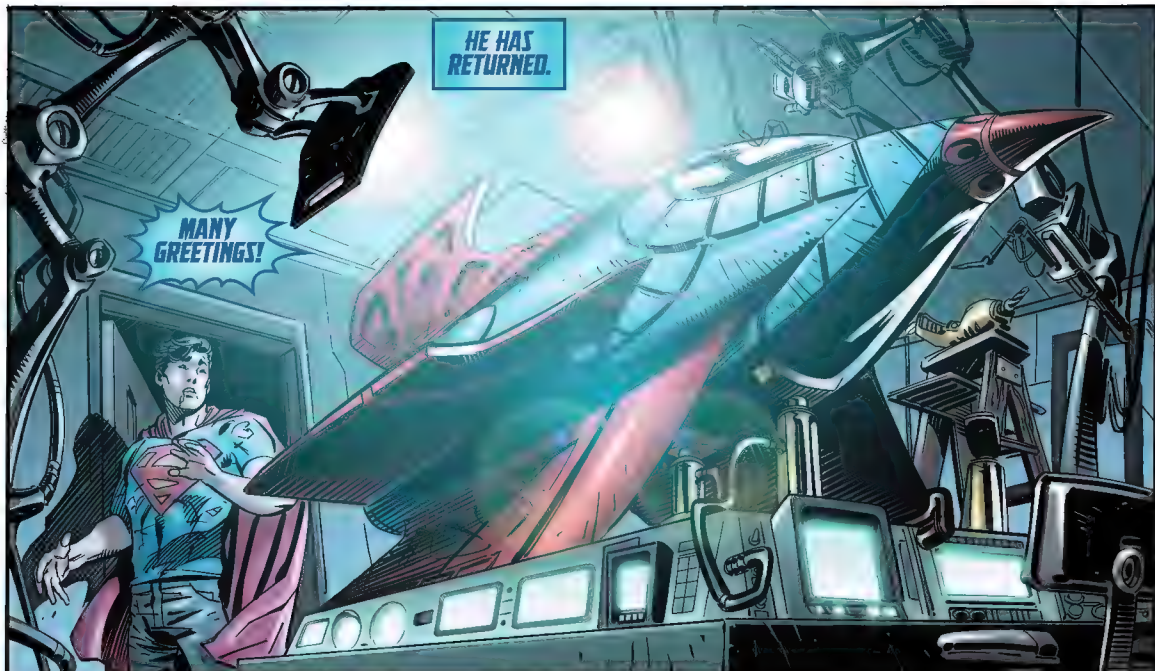
CHECK
HIM OUT.

YOU'LL
SEE.

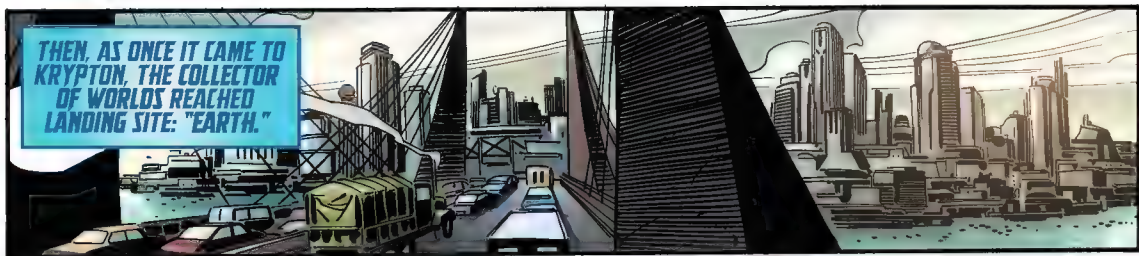
RECKON
I FOUND ME A
SPACEMAN.



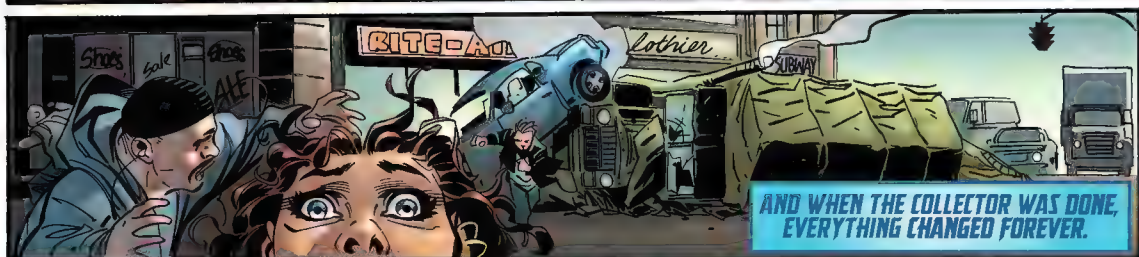
SILENT
MODE OFF.



THEN, AS ONCE IT CAME TO
KRYPTON, THE COLLECTOR
OF WORLDS REACHED
LANDING SITE: "EARTH."



AND WHEN THE COLLECTOR WAS DONE,
EVERYTHING CHANGED FOREVER.

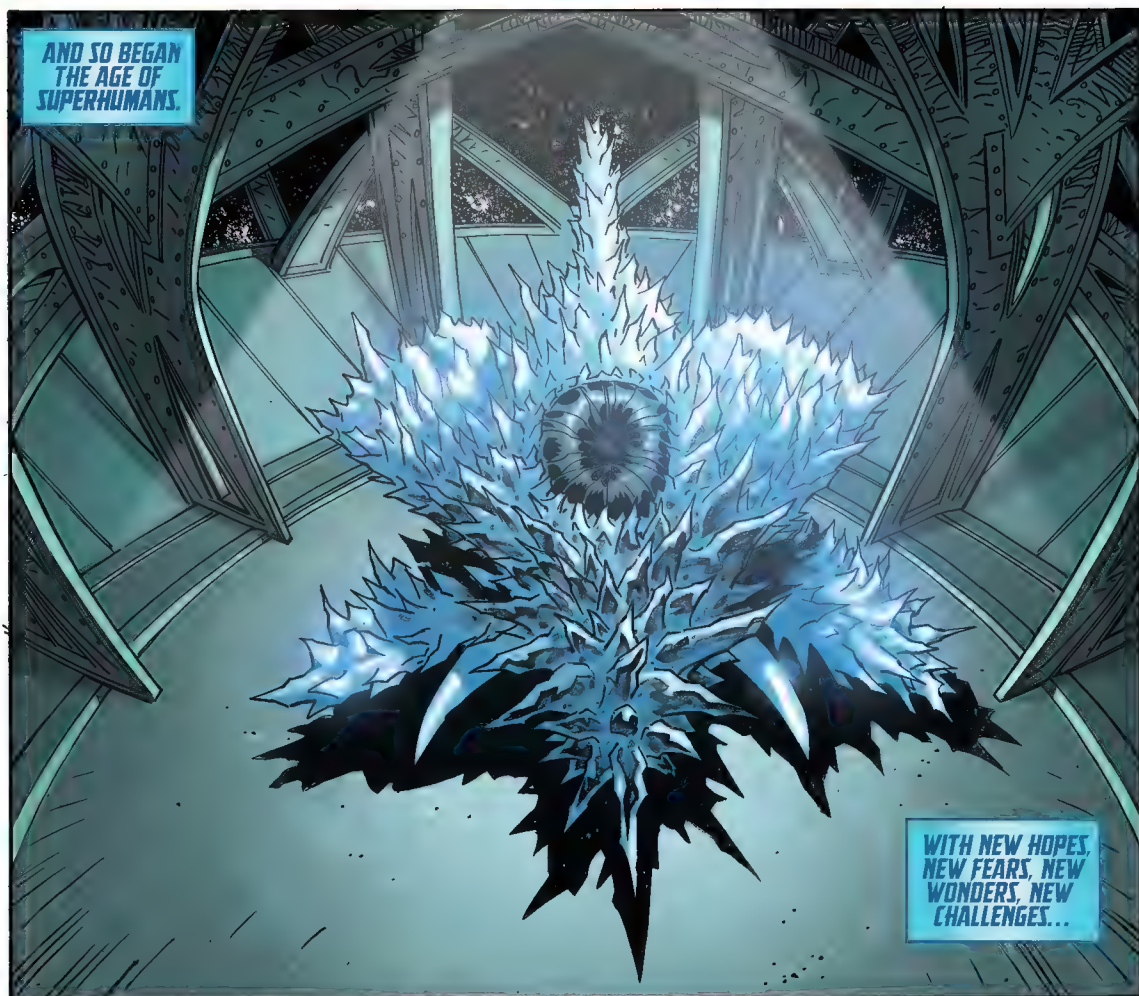


A DOOMED
LEVEL 3 WORLD
ACHIEVED LEVEL 4
DEVELOPMENTAL
POTENTIAL.



WHAT HAD BEEN YIELDED TO
WHAT WAS TO COME, AS THE
SEED OF KRYPTON GREW
AND BLOOMED.

AND SO BEGAN
THE AGE OF
SUPERHUMANS.



WITH NEW HOPES,
NEW FEARS, NEW
WONDERS, NEW
CHALLENGES...

NEW AND
UNIMAGINABLE
EVILS.

IT SEEMS
IMPOSSIBLE.

BUT WE'RE HERE
AT A TIME BEFORE
SUPERMAN'S FORTRESS
OF SOLITUDE WAS
ABLE TO PROTECT
ITSELF AGAINST TIME
TRAVELERS.

ONLY ONE
OF US HAS
THE POWER
TO SHATTER
KRYPTONIAN
SUNSTONE.

AND I HAVE
WAITED SUCH A
LONG TIME FOR
REVENGE ON THE
HOUSE OF EL.

SEE?





SOMETHING'S
DRAGGING ON
THE ENGINE'S
LEAD SHIELD!

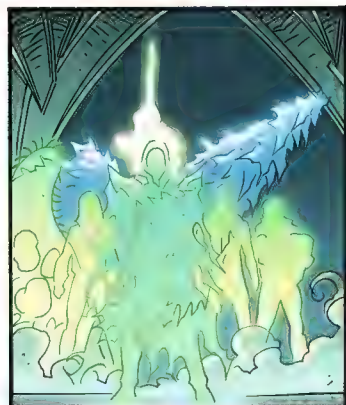
LIKE A
MAGNET!



GotWot U
CAME
FOR!

I've
SCARED-ERD
2 Me!

SPEAK THE
KEY-WORD!

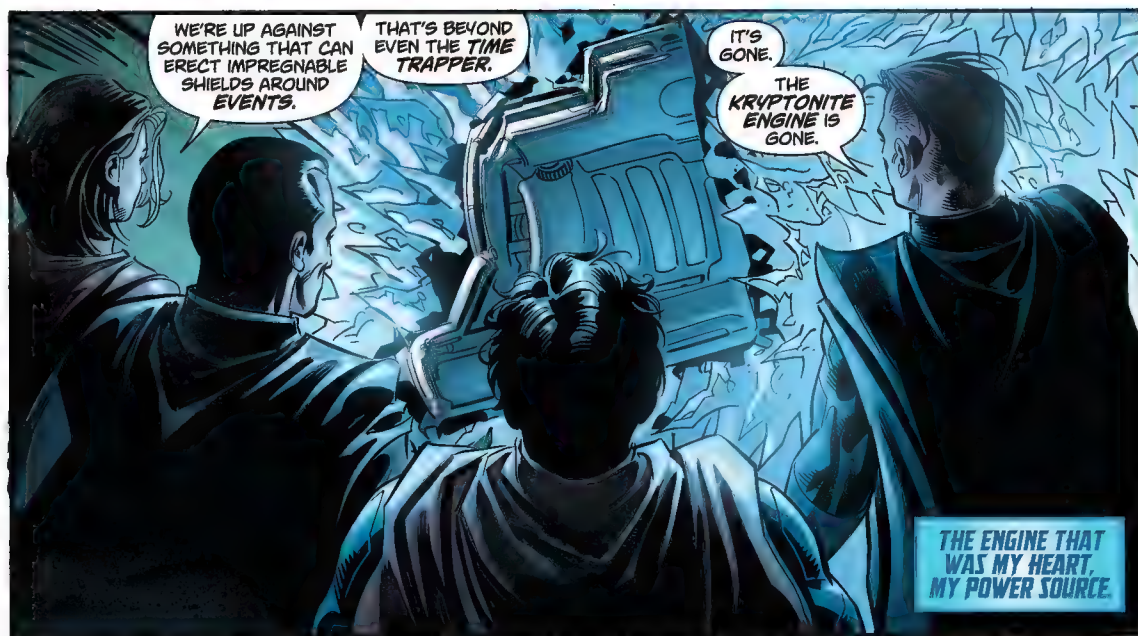


NOT
AGAIN!

THE
ULTIMATE
BREAK-
IN!

AND WE
COULDN'T DO
ANYTHING TO
PREVENT
IT!

THIS IS THE STORY
OF THE MISSION AND
ITS CONCLUSION.



WE'RE UP AGAINST
SOMETHING THAT CAN
ERECT IMPREGNABLE
SHIELDS AROUND
EVENTS.

THAT'S BEYOND
EVEN THE TIME
TRAPPER.

IT'S
GONE.

THE
KRYPTONITE
ENGINE IS
GONE.

THE ENGINE THAT
WAS MY HEART,
MY POWER SOURCE.



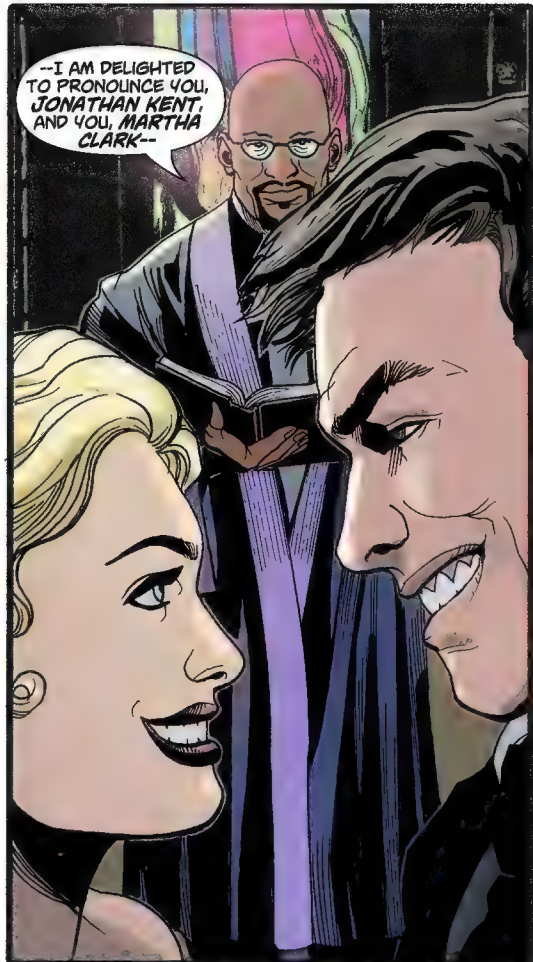
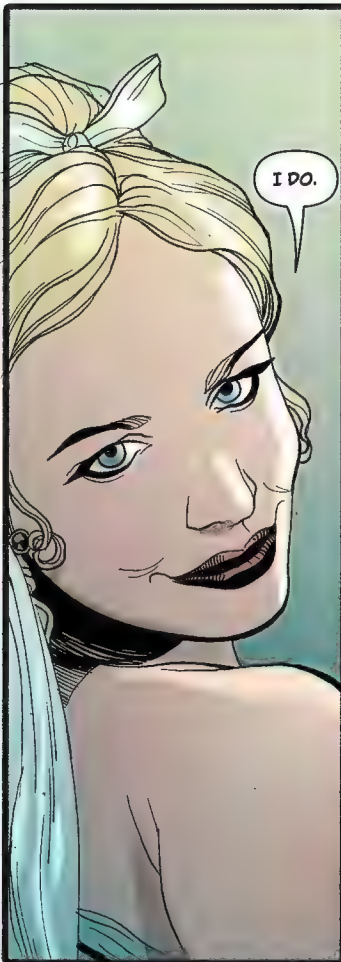
AND NOW IT'S IN
THE HANDS OF THE
ANTI-SUPERMAN
ARMY.

WITHOUT IT,
I AM DOOMED
TO DIE.

AND
WHEN THAT
HAPPENS ...

SO TOO DIES
THE EARTH...

NEXT: WHEN SUPERMAN LEARNED TO FLY





CONGRATULATIONS, MISSUS KENT!

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU, MISTER KENT!



DON'T YOU JUST LOVE THE SOUND OF THAT? "MRS. KENT"...

GLAD YOU FEEL THAT WAY. BECAUSE, FROM HERE ON, IT'S THE TWO OF US TOGETHER.



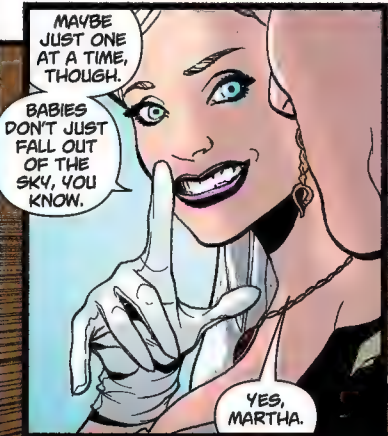
MMMM... I COULDN'T ASK FOR ANYTHING MORE.

ALL WE NEED TO DO NOW IS LIVE--



AND DON'T FORGET CHILDREN!

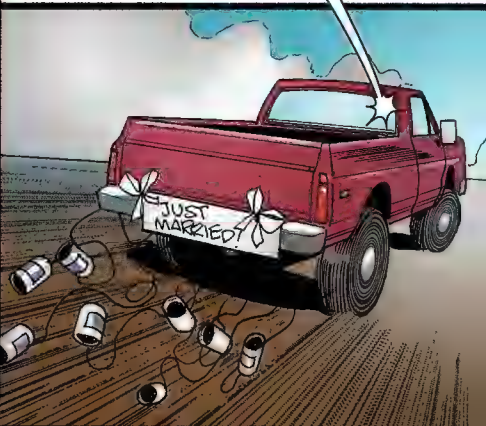
YEP-- A WHOLE HOUSEFUL!

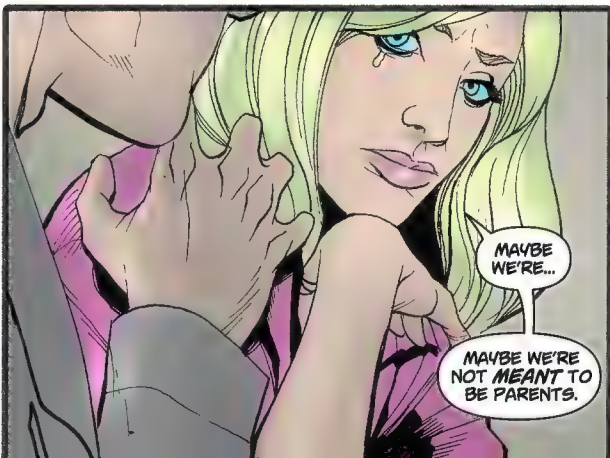
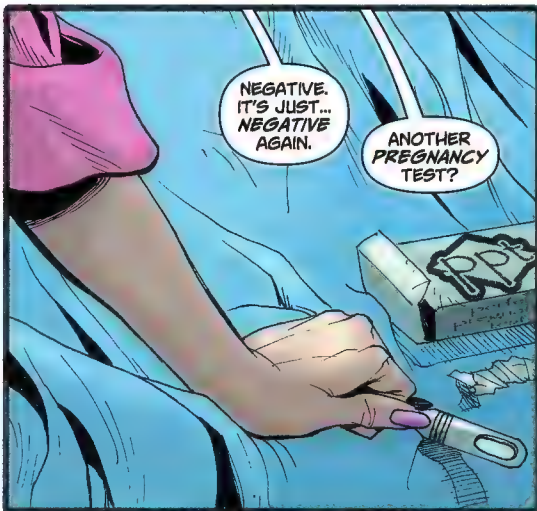
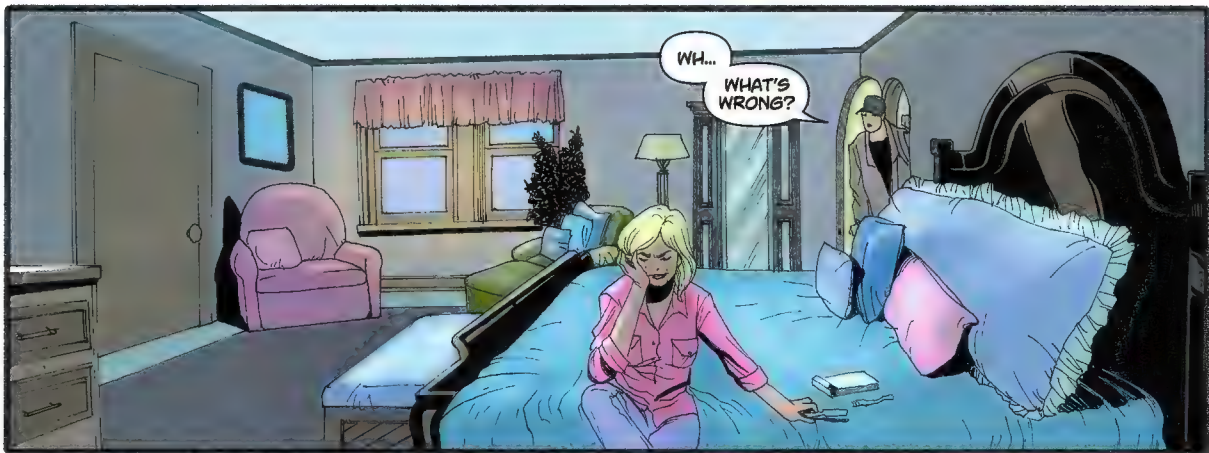
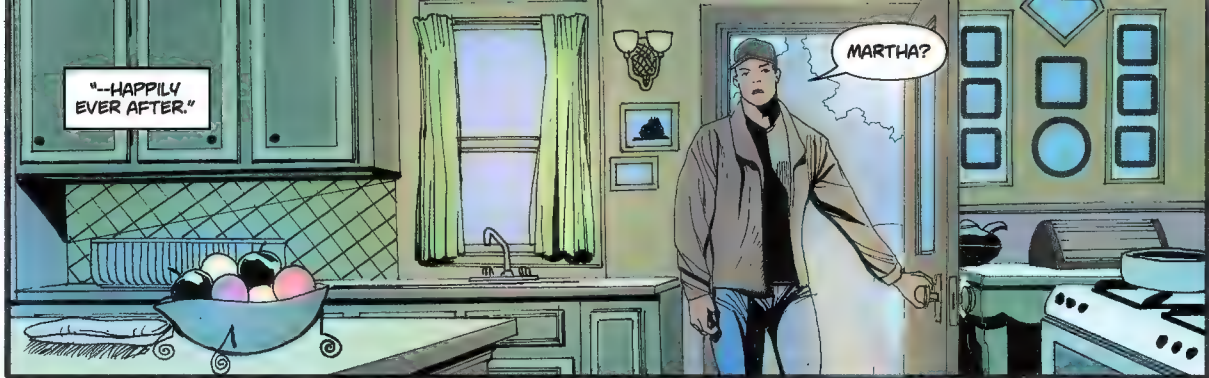


MAYBE JUST ONE AT A TIME, THOUGH.

BABIES DON'T JUST FALL OUT OF THE SKY, YOU KNOW.

YES, MARTHA.





UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

Be it known that, on the recommendation
of the faculty, the trustees have conferred upon

JONAS HAUSLER

the degree of
DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

with all of the rights, privileges, and responsibilities
thereunto appertaining.

...I'VE KNOWN
YOU FOLKS A LONG
TIME. HECK, I BROUGHT
JONATHAN INTO THIS
WORLD MORE YEARS
AGO THAN I CARE
TO RECALL.

SO I
WISH I HAD
BETTER
NEWS.

THE TRUTH IS,
WHAT WITH THE
LOW MOTILITY AND
ENDOMETRIOSIS,
IT'D BE HARD FOR
EITHER OF YOU
TO HAVE A CHILD.

TOGETHER,
WELL...

...IT'S NOT
IMPOSSIBLE, BUT
IT'S NOT LIKELY
EITHER.

THERE
MUST BE
SOMETHING
WE CAN
DO.

WHAT ABOUT
THEM **TEST TUBE BABIES**
THEY KEPT TALKING ABOUT
ON THE NEWS A WHILE BACK?

YOU MEAN **IN VITRO**
FERTILIZATION? WELL,
THEY'VE STARTED
TRYING IT UP IN KANSAS
CITY, BUT IT'S ALL STILL
PRETTY NEW.

FACT IS, IT'D COST
YOU **THOUSANDS**
OF DOLLARS JUST TO
TRY IT **ONCE**, AND
MOST OF THE TIME,
IT STILL DOESN'T
TAKE.

LET'S START
A LITTLE SLOWER.
WE CAN TRY SOME
HORMONE
TREATMENTS, AND
SEE WHERE WE GO
FROM THERE.

ALL RIGHT.
LET'S GIVE IT
A TRY.



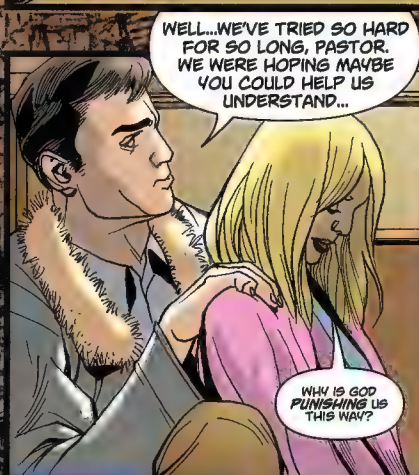
...HORMONES FOR OVER A YEAR NOW. BUT STILL...

...NOTHING.



I'M SO SORRY.

BUT I'M AFRAID I DON'T UNDERSTAND-- WHY COME TO SEE ME?



WELL...WE'VE TRIED SO HARD FOR SO LONG, PASTOR. WE WERE HOPING MAYBE YOU COULD HELP US UNDERSTAND...

WHY IS GOD PUNISHING US THIS WAY?

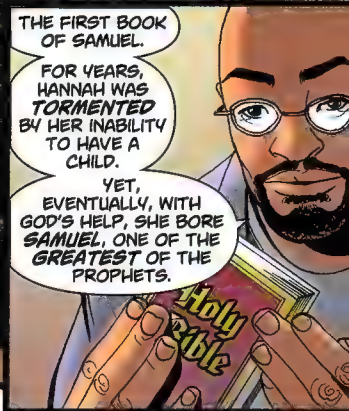


WHAT DID WE DO WRONG?



"AND ELKANAH, HER HUSBAND, SAID TO HER, 'HANNAH, WHY DO YOU WEEP? AM I NOT BETTER TO YOU THAN TEN SONS?'"

...WHAT?



THE FIRST BOOK OF SAMUEL.

FOR YEARS, HANNAH WAS **TORMENTED** BY HER INABILITY TO HAVE A CHILD.

YET, EVENTUALLY, WITH GOD'S HELP, SHE BORE **SAMUEL**, ONE OF THE GREATEST OF THE PROPHETS.



SCRIPTURE TELLS US THAT SARAH WAS **NINETY YEARS OLD** BEFORE SHE FINALLY BORE ISAAC, AND THAT ABRAHAM WAS **ONE HUNDRED**.

SO **MANY** OF OUR FOREBEARS HAD TROUBLE BEARING CHILDREN.

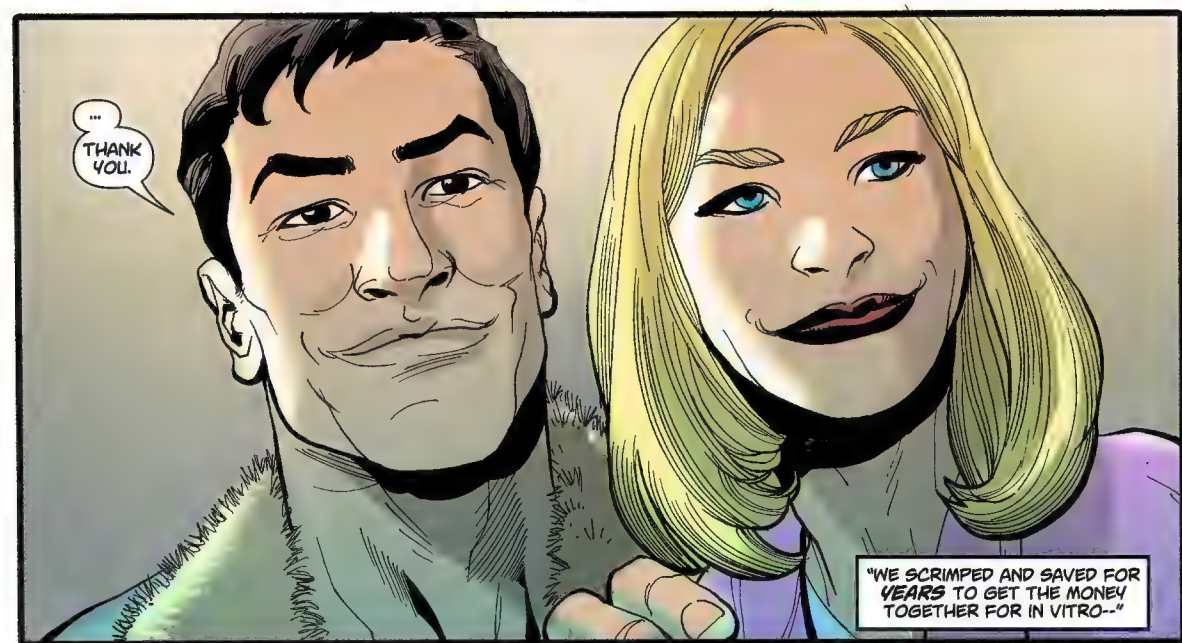


I DON'T KNOW **WHY** THE TWO OF YOU HAVE HAD THESE TROUBLES. BUT I **DO** KNOW THAT EVERYTHING IS PART OF GOD'S PLAN.



AND WITH TWO PEOPLE AS FINE AS YOU, I CAN'T IMAGINE IT'S A PUNISHMENT.

I'M SURE IT'S BECAUSE, WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT, HE HAS SOMETHING **WONDERFUL** IN STORE FOR YOU.



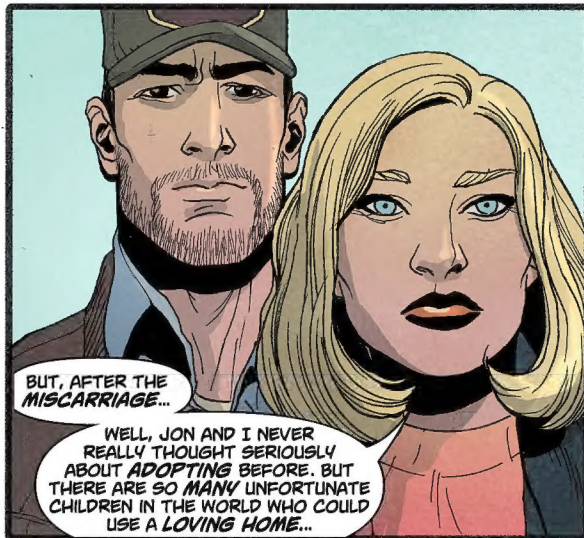
...
THANK YOU.

"WE SCRIMPED AND SAVED FOR **YEARS** TO GET THE MONEY TOGETHER FOR IN VITRO--"

ADOPTION SERVICES

Erica Strommen

--AND,
AT FIRST, WE
THOUGHT IT WAS
THE ANSWER
TO OUR
PRAYERS.



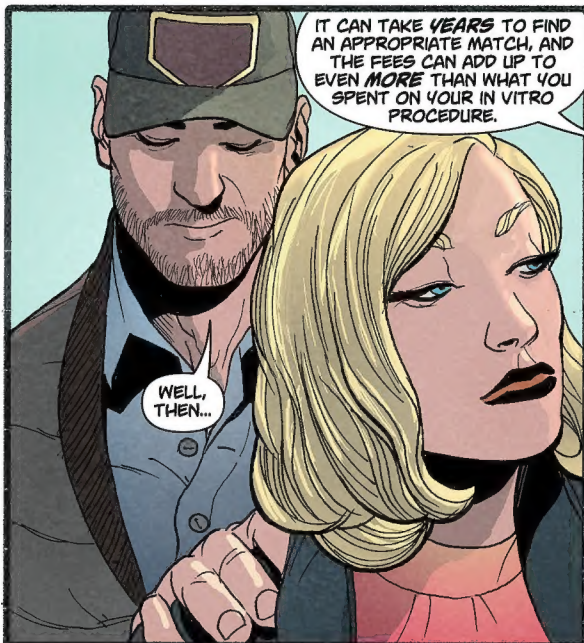
BUT, AFTER THE
MISCARRIAGE...

WELL, JON AND I NEVER
REALLY THOUGHT SERIOUSLY
ABOUT **ADOPTING** BEFORE. BUT
THERE ARE SO MANY UNFORTUNATE
CHILDREN IN THE WORLD WHO COULD
USE A **LOVING HOME**...



THAT'S CERTAINLY TRUE,
AND YOU DO SEEM LIKE A
LOVELY COUPLE.

HOWEVER, I SHOULD WARN
YOU UP FRONT THAT ADOPTION
IS A LONG PROCESS, TOO. THERE
ARE **REFERRALS, SCREENINGS,**
HOME VISITS, COURT HEARINGS...



IT CAN TAKE **YEARS** TO FIND
AN APPROPRIATE MATCH, AND
THE FEES CAN ADD UP TO
EVEN **MORE** THAN WHAT YOU
SPENT ON YOUR IN VITRO
PROCEDURE.

WELL,
THEN...

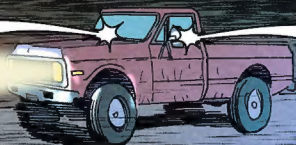


...I GUESS
WE'D BEST START
SAVING UP
AGAIN.

...WE SPENT **ALL** OUR SAVINGS ON THAT IN VITRO. IT'LL TAKE **YEARS** TO SAVE UP ENOUGH AGAIN--

--AND **MORE** YEARS AFTER THAT BEFORE WE CAN ADOPT A CHILD.

WELL, MAYBE THERE'S A WAY WE CAN GET THE MONEY **SOONER**.



HOW? BY ROBBING A **BANK**?

NO. I WAS THINKING MAYBE WE COULD **MORTGAGE** THE FARM.

JONATHAN! THAT FARM'S BEEN IN YOUR FAMILY FOR **GENERATIONS!**

YEP. AND THIS WAY, WE CAN RAISE **MORE** GENERATIONS THERE, TOO.

BUT THE **RISK**...WHAT IF THE CROPS HIT ANOTHER **BAD** SEASON, LIKE A FEW YEARS BACK? WE COULD **LOSE** THE FARM!

WELL, IN THAT CASE, I GUESS WE'D HAVE TO MOVE TO TOWN AND OPEN UP A **GENERAL STORE** OR SOMETHING.

WE'VE MADE IT **THIS FAR**. WAY I FIGURE IT, WE CAN HANDLE WHATEVER ELSE COMES ALONG, TOO, AS LONG AS WE DO IT **TOGETHER**.

I LOVE YOU, JONATHAN KENT.

'COURSE "AM I NOT BETTER TO YOU THAN TEN SONS?"



"YOU CERTAINLY ARE.

"NOW, WATCH OUT FOR THAT **ROUGH PATCH** OF ROAD UP AHEAD. WE DON'T WANT TO GET **STUCK** AGAIN."

"YES, MARTHA."



END

GEORGE PÉREZ JESUS MERINO

SUPERMAN



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